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January 28, 2002 LB 385, 458

CLERK: 32 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 385.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: The bill advances. Before we move onto other business this morning, members, I just want to give you a little scheduling heads up. We're going to adjourn a little bit before 11:30 this morning. Across the hall is the Highway 2 dedication ceremony. That will happen at 11:30. You've received a handout about that, if you care to attend. But we will adjourn a little before 11:30 to allow that to occur. (Visitor introduced.) Mr. Clerk, LB 458.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 458, a bill by Senator Baker. (Read title.) Introduced on January 10 of last year, at that time referred to the Natural Resources Committee. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have amendments pending to the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Baker, you're recognized to open on the bill.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. This bill eliminates the requirement that a person submitting an application to renew their license as a water well contractor or pump installer, that right now they have a three-year period in which they have to gain 18 hours of continuing education in order to renew that license. It is very similar to what the EMTs do only we have to go through a 30-hour continuing education. We sign an affidavit and so on. what they do now for a three-year period, 18 hours. They sign the applica...sign the affidavit. It is an affidavit, a legal form, and submit it to the Water Well Board and they approve this continuing education. What the bill does, the green copy, is eliminate the requirement that they submit this affidavit to the Water Well Standards Board. They still have to have 18 hours of training, sign the affidavit, but the license or the application then would just simply be approved by the Water Well Contractors Board and the license extended. That is the green copy. There is one other issue in there, I guess. The HHS has a fund, it's no longer applicable, down there in line 22 of page 3, to eliminate reference to the Bureau of Environmental